1st April 1930]

(*f*) In making the selection, due consideration was given to the claims of all communities.

(*g*) & (*h*) Some of the selected candidates have been appointed. The others have not been appointed owing to the lack of vacancies.

Alleged grievances of sub-assistant surgeons.

*1792 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any reduction, in the cadre of sub-assistant surgeons by discharging from service, was made within the last five years;

(*b*) if so, how many sub-assistant surgeons were discharged;

(*c*) the reason or reasons for discharging them;

(*d*) whether they were compensated for the loss of service;

(*e*) if so, how and on what condition or conditions they were compensated and, if not, why not;

(*f*) whether any and if so how many of them were re-appointed after discharge from service;

(*g*) what was the order of re-entertainment;

(*h*) whether they were started on the pay they were drawing at the time of discharge;

(*i*) if not, why not;

(*j*) whether any and if so how many of them were confirmed in the department after re-appointment;

(*k*) whether the Government have received memorials from the discharged and re-entertained sub-assistant surgeons requesting to fix the initial pay at not less than the pay they were drawing at the time of discharge;

(*l*) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken on the memorials; and

(*m*) whether it is a fact that some junior sub-assistant surgeons have become seniors and have been drawing higher pay than their seniors before discharge in consequence of the former's earlier re-appointment, and if so, whether any action has been taken to rectify this anomaly?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) One hundred and fifty permanent sub-assistant surgeons were discharged or compulsorily retired between the years 1923 and 1927 on account of—

(1) the reduction of the leave and casualty reserve under the retrenchment scheme, and

(2) the employment by local bodies of private medical practitioners to hold posts previously held by Government medical officers.

(*d*) & (*e*) The officers were granted pension or gratuity admissible to them under the Civil Service Regulations.

(*f*) Sixty-four sub-assistant surgeons with good records who applied for re-employment have been re-appointed.

[1st April 1930

(g) All sub-assistant surgeons who were discharged were asked whether they were willing to accept temporary appointments when vacancies occurred. Appointments were offered in the order of seniority, but as all were not able to join immediately, vacancies had to be filled in the order in which their services were available.

(h) & (i) Those who were retired on compensation pension were on re-employment, started on the pay they were drawing at the time of discharge. The others were started on the minimum pay of sub-assistant surgeons and treated as new recruits to the service.

(j) Thirty-four.

(k) Yes.

(l) The memorials are under consideration.

(m) As stated in the answer to clause (g), it has happened that junior sub-assistant surgeons who joined the appointments earlier draw more pay than their seniors, but confirmations are made only in the order of seniority as it stood prior to retrenchment. The question of revising their initial pay on re-employment is under consideration in connexion with their memorials [referred to in clause (k)].

Public Health

Alleged protests against the proposed Mahanandi water-supply scheme.

*1793 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state in relation to the question of investigation of the Mahanandi scheme of water-supply to the Municipality of Nandyal—

(a) how many petitions of protest including resolutions of meetings have been received up-to-date, and from whom;

(b) whether the Municipal Chairman has sent any communication or communications with regard to the investigation, and, if so, what the communation or communications are; and

(c) whether the Revenue authorities have made any report on the revenue aspect of the question and if so, what it is?

A.—(a) One hundred and nineteen petitions and seven resolutions protesting against the Mahanandi scheme of water-supply to Nandyal have been received by the Government. Most of the petitions were from the villagers in the Kurnool and neighbouring districts. A list [a] of persons from whom resolutions have been received is annexed to the answer.

(b) The Chairman, Municipal Council, Nandyal, reported recently that the sum of Rs. 2,500 required to meet the cost of the investigation of the scheme has been paid into the Imperial Bank.

(c) The Government have called for a report from the Board of Revenue and are awaiting its receipt.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IX on pages 944–945 infra.